

Message Text

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42

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03 /033 W

----- 029604

R 121105Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0491

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 16632

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS

REF: ROME 13613 AND PREVIOUS

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED COPY OF TELEX FROM MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT (MOT) TO ONA AGENT IN ROME (SOCIETA SAFEST), REVOKING IMMEDIATELY SANCTION AGAINST ONA. AS TELEX DATED OCTOBER 6, ONA SUSPENSION WAS EFFECTIVE FOR TWO OUR OF THE THREE MONTHS ORIGINALLY IMPOSED.
2. EMBOFF ACCOMPANIED ON OCTOBER 5 STEDMAN HINCKLEY, PRESIDENT OF ONA AND WORTH THORNTON, SENIOR VICE PRESENT OF ONA FOR CALL ON MINISTER OF TRANSPORT RUFFINO. HINCKLEY APOLOGIZED FOR INFRACTION, SAID HE HAD BEEN UNAWARE OF SITUATION, PROMISED THERE WOULD BE NO REPETITIONS AND CITED ONA'S MANY YEARS OF INFRACTION FREE AIR SERVICE TO ITALY. MINISTER REVIEWED FACTS IN CASE. HE STATED THAT ON BASIS OF HIS REVIEW THREE MONTHS SUSPENSION WAS PERHAPS TOO HARSH AND OUT OF CONSIDERATION FOR AMBASSADOR VOLPE WHO HAD REQUESTED THE APPOINTMENT, HE EXPECTED SUSPENSION COULD BE REVOKED BY FOLLOWING DAY.
3. ONA ALSO HAD SUPPORT FROM LOCAL MANUFACTURER OF AIRCRAFT SEATS WITH WHICH ONA HAS \$1 MILLION CONTRACT (WHICH ONA HAD THREATENED TO CANCEL) AS WELL AS ONE OR TWO "FRIENDS" (ONE OF WHOM, ACCORDING TO HINCKLEY, AS A FRIEND OF PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI, PRESENTED ONA'S VIEWS TO THE PRIME MINISTER). VOLPE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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